

Murray History Advisory Board
Minutes for January 24, 2012

Attendance: David Adams, Wendy DeMann, Ted McBride, Peter Steele, Ian Wright, Mary Ann Kirk (staff).

Excused: Susan Wright

1. Minutes for November 29, 2011 were approved as written.
2. Mary Ann reported that exterior alterations were in the process at 4973 South State without formal approval. This is a designated historic building in the Downtown City Center. Planning and zoning staff said they rely on the public to monitor unapproved changes. The board was asked to keep their eyes out on this area.
3. Mary Ann will be working on oral histories. Wendy was interested in helping. If there are other future projects, Mary Ann will ask if others are interested in helping on specific volunteer committees.
4. Mary Ann has talked with a few people about landmark ordinances. Korral Broschinsky suggested looking at Logan or Provo but felt that most ordinances with protection clauses will have a design review process. We would really need to work with home owners. She suggested looking more at incentives. We could include these ideas to the city council when we present the date for yearly demolitions. This should probably be done in late June after budgets are finished. The city is dealing with a lot of issues right now.
5. Mary Ann met with Gilbert Gonzales in the building department to discuss the idea of educating neighbors in older and historic neighborhoods about simple things they could do to minimize loss in an earthquake as part of the Utah ShakeOut exercise. Gilbert was happy to do this and Mary Ann will be trying to identify someone to host neighborhood host sites from 8 areas in April and May.

South of 5900 South and West of freeway
North of 5900 South and West of freeway
South of 5900 South between 300 and 900 East
South of 5600 South between 900 and 1300 East
North of 4800 South between Brown Street and Atwood
East of Hillcrest Jr High
West of Murray High
North of Vine between Center and Atwood

6. Museum visitors wanting copies of documents and scans of photos have been increasing. Mary Ann asked if we should consider that a free service provided by our staff or at what point we should cover our costs of materials and staff time. Wendy thought that anyone would expect to pay a small fee for these types of services. Mary Ann will talk to Doug.

Current fees:

Photo scanning: 1st 10 scans free, 50 cents per scan for each additional photo scan
Copying: 1st 10 copies free, 10 cents per each additional copy

Proposed fees to cover materials and staff time.

Photo scanning: 50 cents per scan up to \$2.50 for 5 scans, \$5.00 for each additional 5 scans.
Limited to 20 scans in one order. Larger orders based on time.
Copying: 10 cents per copy up to 10 copies. 15 cents per copy for over 10 copies.

7. The Oasis Apartment proposal and Center Street issues were discussed as it relates to the current downtown city center ordinance. Mary Ann and Peter attended the design review committee meeting where the Oasis Apartment application was reviewed. They voiced concern with the height and setback on a very small street adjacent to a historic residential district. Based on their suggestions, the design committee asked the applicant to provide a drawing to scale of the surrounding buildings and neighborhood to reflect an accurate sense of how it would fit into its built environment. The applicant has made some revisions and is scheduled for P & Z on February 2. No one had seen the revision but it appeared it has been reduced from a five-story to a four-story building. A neighbor contacted both Mary Ann and Peter Steele expressing her concern and asking for help on how to voice her opposition. She was invited to contact her own city council representative or informed she could sign up to speak at the P&Z hearing or a city council meeting. She is collecting a neighborhood petition.

Mary Ann asked the board if they want to make any statement at the P&Z. Board members felt it was appropriate to ask if the wording related to a transition or buffer in the general plan was considered with the height and setback allowed in the ordinance. It was unclear if the P&Z or the city council took enough time to understand and visualize the impact of a 50 foot building on the west side of Center Street with the requirement to come up to the sidewalk without any setback. There was some confusion about the paragraph that allows a 50 foot building within 150 feet of a residential neighborhood.

“The height of a structure located adjacent to a residential zoning district may not exceed fifty feet (50') within one hundred fifty feet (150') of a residential zoning district.

Some thought it allowed a building up to 50 feet as long as it was 150 feet away from the neighborhood. The distance between the homes on the east side and the proposed building was much smaller than that. However, Peter interpreted it to mean it could be up to 50 feet within the 150 feet distance and higher beyond that.

Peter will make a statement at the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting to recommend the city evaluate the ordinance related to the general plan recommendations for a buffer/transition area and to reconsider the height and setback requirements for Center Street and the height between Center and State Street. Other board members planned to attend with him.